

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 02792 272020Z

63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

COME-00 FRB-03 /079 W
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R 271931Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1809

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 2792

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, UY

SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS ON ECONOMY MINISTER'S FUTURE

REF: (A) MONTEVIDEO 2743, (B) MONTEVIDEO 2759

1. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS NOT BEEN A DEFINITIVE RESOLUTION AS YET, WE HAVE SEVERAL INDICATIONS THAT EFFORTS ARE UNDER WAY TO RECONCILE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN VEGH VILLEGAS AND GOU LEADERSHIP OVER VEGH'S FUTURE. OVER THE WEEK END VEGH WAS INVITED TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT DESIGNATE DR. APARICIO MENDEZ. ACCORDING TO SCANTY PRESS REPORTS THE MEETING LASTED HALF AN HOUR AND NO RESULTS WERE ANNOUNCED. WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED REPORTS THAT VEGH MET WITH GENERAL ALVAREZ, REPRESENTING THE ARMED FORCES COMMANDERS, THUS ENDING THE ISOLATION AND LACK OF CONSULTATIONS WHICH WE ARE TOLD HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN VEGH'S INTENTION TO RESIGN.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FURTHER MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR TODAY, INCLUDING A SESSION OF THE JUNTA DE GENERALES. THIS COULD BE A CRITICAL MOMENT FOR VEGH TO ASSESS THE DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DECISIONS HE WILL HAVE IF HE DECIDES TO STAY ON. SOME
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PAGE 02 MONTEV 02792 272020Z

MILITARY SOURCES HAVE FLATLY SAID THAT VEGH WILL STAY AND FROM THIS

WE SURMISE THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT HIS KEY CONDITIONS.
WHETHER VEGH'S DISLIKE FOR RECENT POLITICAL EVENTS (SEE REFTTEL)
WILL BE STRONG ENOUGH TO PREVENT A RECONCILIATION REMAINS TO BE
SEEN. HOWEVER, THERE IS A DISTINCT AIR OF MORE CONFIDENCE AT THE
MOMENT, INCLUDING A SIGNIFICANT STRENGTHENING OF THE PESO WHICH
WEAKENED NOTABLY LAST WEEK, AFTER RUMORS OF VEGH'S DEPARTURE.
SIRACUSA

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Message Attributes

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